

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 2 and 4 are pending. Claims 2 and 4 have been amended to more fully distinguish over the cited art. Reconsideration is requested.

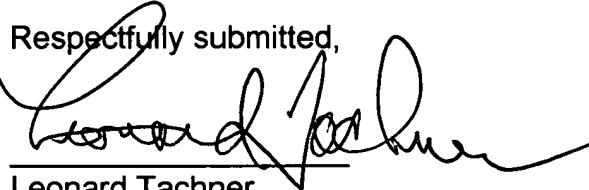
Claim 2 now recites the step of positioning the bore exits sufficiently distant from the second ends of the pyrotechnic devices to prevent an ignition spark from passing through the exits. The prior art of record actually relies upon an ignition spark passing through the exit (muzzle) between most adjacent opposed electrical connections for ammunition cartridge detonation. See for example, column 3, lines 33-35 and column 4, lines 3-5 in McNulty Jr. ('073) as well as FIGs. 7 and 8.

Claim 4 has been amended to recite the step of storing the bulk of the dart tether wires between the darts prior to detonation. No prior art discloses storing the bulk of the wire tethers between the darts prior to detonation. This step provides novel range advantages. As more tether wire travels from the launcher, the drag upon the darts increases thereby mitigating the spread between the darts as they travel further toward the target.

AMENDMENT Continued
Serial No. 10/719,131

Since McNulty Jr. ('073) teaches away from the added step of claim 2 and does not disclose or suggest the added step of claim 4, the pending claims appear to be patentably distinct from the art of record and therefore should be allowed as amended. Such an allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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